

PLEDGE TO THE DEAD.

BY WILLIAM WINTER.

Read at the banquet of the Society of the Army of the Potowmack, at Albany, June 18, 1879.]

From the hilt of love that uncloses
In the glow of a festive kiss,
On the wind that is heavy with roses
And shrill with the bachelors of bliss,
Let it float o'er the mystic ocean
That breaks on the kingdom of night—
Our oath of eternal devotion
To the heroes who died for the right!

II.

They loved, as we love, yet they parted
From all that man's spirit can prize;
Left woman and child broken-hearted,
Staring up to the pitiless skies;
Left the tumult of youth, the best gurdon
Hope promised to conquer from Fate,—
Gave all, for the agonized burden
Of death for the Flag and the State!

III.

Where they roam on the slopes of the mountain
That only by angels is trod,
Where they muse by the crystalline fountain
That springs in the garden of God;
Are they lost in the gloom of a tender?
Do they never look back and regret?
All the valiant are constant and tender,
And Honor can never forget!

IV.

Divine in their pitying sadness
They look down on the scenes of earth;
They will help us, and start into gladness,
And echo the notes of our mirth;
They will lift their white hands in a blessing—
We shall know by the tear that it brings—
The rapture of friendship confessing
With harps and the waving of wings!

V.

In that grim and gloomy斯uevial
Which blesses the world through a curse,
Still bringing the good out of evil—
The emblem of peace on the heart!—
They were shattered, consumed and forsaken,
Like the shadows that fly from the dawn;
We may never know why they were taken;
But we always shall feel, they are gone.

VI.

If the wind that sighs over our pearls
No longer is solem with knells,—
But lovely with flowers and fairies,
And sweet with the calm Sabbath bells;
If Virtue, in cottage and palace,
Leads Love to the bridal of Pride,
"Tis because out of war's bitter chance
Our heroes drank deeply—and died!

VII.

To the clouds and the mountains we breathe it,
To the freedom of planet and star;
Let the tempests rage and roar it,
Let the winds of the night hear it far—
Our own, that till manhood shall perish,
And honor and virtue are shed,
We are true to the cause that they cherish,
And eternally true to the dead!

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

Four scholarships of \$1,000 each have just been endowed at Abbot Academy, Andover. The Boston School Committee has ordered that the pupils of the public schools—with the exception of the graduating classes—shall not study at home during June.

There promises to be a deficiency of \$25,000 in the San Francisco School Fund this month, and it is proposed in the School Board that the contractors who have been building the new school-houses shall pay instead of the teachers.

The Louisiana Constitutional Convention has covered itself with glory after all. It has maintained the State Superintendence which was threatened by forty states, and the last of them, too.

Dr. Nebinger has asked the Philadelphia Board of Education to issue a circular on the subject of shortcomings in school children, which the Doctor deems is increasing. This defective vision, he was assured, was caused by the imperfect light, and the other unhealthy conditions under which the lessons were learned, occasioned by the position at school, the hours of study, and the inability of the child's brain to grapple with the tasks imposed upon it.

During the term just concluded at Cambridge University there have been eighteen pupils busy in the workshop of the Department of Mechanism and Applied Science. Of the eighteen, six intend to be engineers. In his organization of the workshop the professor in charge has at afford an opportunity to members of the University engaged in any practical research of having such experimental apparatus as they require constructed at cost price under their own directions.

Johns Hopkins University has just ended its third academic year by admitting six scholars to the degree of P. D. and three to the degree of A. B. Twenty gentlemen were appointed Fellows of the University for the year 1879-1880. Six new instructors have been added to the university staff for the year. Among them is Mr. Sidney Lanier, who will give instruction in English literature. The president and professors of the university have made a contribution of \$500, to be bestowed next year in two scholarships of \$250 each, one for a graduate of Johns Hopkins, the other for a graduate of Johns Hopkins, the other for a graduate of Johns Hopkins.

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IV. WHY THE SOUTH IS "SOLID." TRIBUNE EXTRA, No. 1, Price, 5 cents. The Tribune gives an account of the reconstruction in South Carolina, showing how Republican majorities were wiped out by intimidation and fraud, also, MR. BLAINE'S SPEECH IN THE SENATE.

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